

**October 15, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri announced today that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded a grant worth \$44,472 to Opportunities for Chenango, Inc. (OFC, Inc.) to provide counseling services on a variety of issues for current and prospective renters and homebuyers.

"We need to ensure that renters and homeowners have the resources and information necessary to make sound financial decisions when renting or buying a home," **Arcuri said**, "These funds will support the efforts of OFC to guide prospective renters and buyers of all backgrounds and financial situations in finding affordable homes and avoiding trouble with rent and mortgage payments. I am glad that we have an organization like OFC to provide these critical services to Chenango County residents and I look forward to working with them in the future."

OFC, Inc. was awarded this grant through HUD's Housing Counseling Program which is set up to provide a variety of home counseling services to homebuyers, homeowners, low- to moderate income renters and the homeless.

OFC, Inc. provides counseling services in the areas below to Chenango County residents:

- Mortgage Assistance
- Mortgage Counseling
- Rental Assistance
- Rental Subsidization
- Housing Repair
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Homelessness

Since 1976, OFC, Inc. has provided housing-related services to the community. Housing security is part of the organization's broader commitment to helping local families and individuals become successful and self-sufficient community members.

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